



## INSPECTOR GENERAL NOTE

Working with your IG

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3501 Military Circle  
Oklahoma City, OK 73111-4398

Phone: 405-228-5395  
Fax: 405-228-5581

In an effort to assist units in the Oklahoma National Guard, this periodic note will help identify trends and provide tips on how to solve many problems that soldiers and airmen are bringing to the Inspector General's office. This note reviews the policy concerning political relationships between soldiers of different rank as set forth by Army Regulation 600-20, Army Command Policy and Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-2909.

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Leaders at all levels must recognize and prevent fraternization and other inappropriate relationships to maintain fair and impartial leadership and maintain the integrity and moral compass of the US Military. In general, officers and enlisted personnel cannot engage in relationships that compromise, or appear to compromise, the integrity or authority of the chain of command. For example, an officer or warrant officer of any rank frequently associating with or seen driving alone with an enlisted service member of the opposite sex at annual training or on drill weekends is inappropriate.

Personnel on Active Duty, including Dual Status Technicians, must also avoid situations where the perception that fraternization is occurring. Army Regulation 600-20 states that the following relationships between soldiers of different rank are prohibited if they;

1. cause actual or perceived partiality or unfairness,
2. involve, or appear to involve, the improper use of rank or position for personal gain,
3. are, or are perceived to be, exploitative or coercive in nature,
4. create an actual or clearly predictable adverse impact on discipline, authority, morale, or the ability of the command to accomplish its mission.

Air force Instruction 36-2909 notes that officers will not do the following with enlisted members;

1. gamble,
2. lend money to, borrow money from, or become indebted to,
3. engage in sexual relations or date,
4. share living accommodations (except when military operations require),
5. engage on personal basis in business enterprises with, or solicit or make solicited sales to (except as permitted by Joint Ethics Regulation).

Members of the National Guard should be sensitive while on an active duty status or during IDT drills and avoid relationships that negatively affect moral, discipline, and respect for authority and unit cohesion. Actions in response to unprofessional relationships could include reprimand, removal from position, reassignment, demotion, and separation.